I: Hollis G-5 (ca. 1894-1904) 1905
FL12 Maasai FL12

Fight: Wounds.

• 685 Ten eyorishe 'l-Kisonko, pe e'yo kolle, enikí 'e-gíri, enikí 'e-gojíye-etíkitin kolíl, entolokitáko.

Kake 'ne entódy eyorishe 'l-kero kitook; ó-nyók eke eyorishe entódy enye kolle, en 'e-gíri, en 'e-gojíye-etíkitin.

Kne tureno en-kuwo ten 'l-Kisonko ten eyorori 'e-díkitin kolíl. Eke 'l-Kisonko ten eyorori 'e-gíríre.

Ten eyoro 'l-nomo en-gíríndy, ene y' elíndy el-ngony, entók; ene, ten en ilkiti 'l-ntíyanak entómon, entókenye gíkin in-duwo nai.

Ore ten enej el-ngony pe ele elenye nyolgíre, pe ebóle el-nomoi the el-ngony elíre, entee eje lúlo-nomoi tíndon, "More"; entúlaki ilo entódy. Elókenye 'l-kolíkon lóre eje "More" 'e-duwo; ene lúlo nenje "More," entókenye el-lotíguo. Kne, ten elóloonóki gíkin enje, "More," entókenye 'l-lotíguóre gíkin.

Crime: Theft.

If a Masai steals milk, or meat, or other small things, he is not fined.

Grown up people, however, rarely steal, it is the boys who take the milk and meat, &c.

Whilst the Masai do not consider it wrong to steal cattle of the enemy, they dislike immensely having their cattle stolen.

Should any warriors steal or be caught by the owner, they would have to pay; and if three men took part in the theft, each would have to pay three heifers.

In the event of the owner following up the thieves and catching them in the act of slaughtering the stolen animal, one of the warriors might see him and call out "Guilty," in which case he would not be fined heavily. Whilst the others would be fined in heifers, he who had cried "Guilty" would only have to pay a young bull. Were all of them to cry "Guilty," they would all be fined in young bulls.

En-gíneyore.

936 583 Ten elíney el-nomoi en-dia, nee nányo el-yeun.

Ten eyoro el-nomoi en-dia entódy, entúlaki elíney, pe eiun el-yeun.

Seduction.

If a warrior causes a woman to conceive, he marries her.

When a warrior loves a woman very much, he purposely causes her to enable him to take her as wife.

* Lit. blind-leg.

J: Bernardi E, 94-4 (no date) 1955 FL.12 Mauri FL.12

[54] "I say, there set no longer *of* sorrow (a circumcised, a warrior), but *of* sorrow (an elder). Take care of thy cattle, goats and sheep, and have regard for them. Give up the occupations of the warrior then art now an elder".

"After this feast", remarks Hoernle, "it all depends on the warrior whether he chooses to take a greater or lesser part in raids. Usually he gets married at once and lives with his wife either in his father's kraal or in the warriors' kraal (*manyatta*) until all his age-mates have married. Only then he is recognised as *of sorrow*, each one builds his own kraal and lays aside the clothes, decorations and the pigtail of the warrior".

[54a] It is evident that the effect of the ceremony is rather limited. It allows an initiate to take a wife, but, even after that, the initiate is not yet "recognised" as an elder. It is as if he were given the elder's status in anticipation of the time when all his age-mates are married. At which time only the status of elder becomes for all purposes official.

[54] A very detailed description of "the *upbow of milk*" is given by *J. T. Dawson*, but the ceremony is mentioned also by other authorities. For,[49] states that "this ceremony is performed by each warrior individually",[50] and Dawson tells us that it occurs at the village of the initiate's father and that four grown-elders take a special part in it.

[54b] The ceremony is preceded by a dance. The candidate is clothed in women's clothes and the first two of the elders place women earrings (*sarutpa*) on him.[51]

[54c] A test follows, in which the candidate is expected to confess how many times he has "stolen milk", i. e. taken milk by himself or with people other than his age mates. Two heads of cattle are usually put as a fine by a guilty candidate. He is then solemnly instructed by one of the elders, apparently the most senior, about "what he must and must not do after he has drunk and become an elder". He now drinks the milk, "very little however" at the

[49] Fox, *l. c.*, p. 488.

[50] He says also that "the ceremony usually takes place somewhere a year or two after the *B* were owing to the Government policy of reducing the period of warriorhood as much as possible".

[51] These ear-rings, *sarutpa*, are also worn by elders. For this reason some of our authorities describe the earrings put on by candidates as the elder's ear-rings or decorations. But the whole attire of candidates is undoubtedly of a female type.

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B'-CHOOMO: ASSAULT

485 Resulting in the loss of an eye—no penalty.

Resulting in the tearing of an ear-lobe—a fine of one cow.

Resulting in the loss or breaking of a tooth—a fine of one cow.

Resulting in the breaking of a bone—an ox of the offender's (he may not have been the aggressor originally) is slaughtered then and there, and all portions of it. The injured man must not see the skin of the slaughtered ox. At the same time, a fine of one heifer is inflicted, but if the injured man should [487] die before this has been handed over, twenty and nine cattle may have to be paid subsequently by his slayer.[1]

To strike a man with an arrow, a club, spear, sword, or knife would result in the imposition of a fine of one fat sheep or one ox, according to the extent of the cuts or other injuries inflicted.

The preceding penalties refer to Masai only. If the murdered man be a Dorobo or savage (Ol-mashi), and if he was known to [488] and a friend of the Masai, twenty and nine cattle must be paid [489] to his relatives. In the case of the murder of or assault on a [490] stranger, no penalty is laid down.

The reiteration of the number nine in the fines prescribed may be explained as follows. A certain round number of cattle is settled upon as fine or compensation. To this number (generally twenty or forty) must be added nine more for the body of the murdered man, in order to wipe out the stain of blood which lies between the rival parties. These nine cattle are accounted for according to the orifices of the human body, thus two for the ears; two for the eyes; two for the nose; one for the mouth; one for the urethra and one for the anus.

'NYAMIN: THEFT

685 Theft of any kind is almost unknown among the Masai, but if one Masai should steal cattle from another, the thief must pay five beasts for each beast stolen, the sex of the animals paid depending on the sex of the stolen beasts. If sheep are

[1] See Hollis, *The Masai*, p. 311.

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stolen, the fine is one ox for each sheep stolen. In the cases of thefts from 3-month, the fines are always reduced, because it is held by the Masai that all the cattle in the country belong, in reality, to them.

If the thief has no cattle, he must give his daughter in marriage to the man whom he has robbed if the latter is a Masai. He gets paid the usual dowery for her, however. If the theft is one of money (a practically unknown crime), the amount of the fine is regulated by the amount of money stolen and the fine must be paid in cattle.

The offence of arson is not known, and there is no stated penalty. If, as a result of grass-burning or through carelessness, a man is the accidental cause of another's kraal being destroyed by fire, he is supposed to bring a bottle of honey, or a cow,[1] by way of compensation. No fine is laid down.

En-chopo: Adultery. *En-gitaapare*: Seduction

If it be known that a man has lain with a woman of another age, he is cursed and has to pay two bottles of honey and two cows before the Elders will remit the curse.[2] Should he be caught in the act, the friends of the cuckold tie him up at the kraal door and he is beaten, pelted with cow-dung and spat upon by everybody, including the women. If the offender is a warrior, his pigtail is cut off and he is cursed. This humiliating punishment is greatly dreaded.

It is no offence for a man to commit fornication or adultery with a woman or girl of his own age, but should a warrior fertilise an unmarried girl, it is considered very wrong. He must pay a cow and a bottle of honey, and the child will be the property of the man the girl is going to marry.[3] If the girl is not engaged, the child will be the property of her father, or her eventual husband may take it. By arrangement, Masai warriors generally marry the girls they cause to conceive.

[1] The Masai are not definite regarding the cow in this case. In fact, the Elders had a mild squabble on the point when the above information was being taken.

[2] See Hollis, *The Masai*, p. 311.

[3] Masai girls are often engaged to be married from their very earliest years.

from each side received each other's bullets. There was then [illegible] called on each to break it. With Kamba tribes the Kikuyu sometimes made stock-based bonds of friendship with intent to deceive, for they have an ideal fundamental of their own. Among the Kamba, given to a sign of peace, and a handful of grain constitutes a gift for which compliment by the Kikuyu and from whom they could no more or less than equals, the [illegible] or "[illegible]," such as other generalities, but are [illegible] Kikuyu agricultural tribes.

Legal Sanctions

The Kikuyu legal system seems to be less organized than that of the South, and to depend more upon the force of public opinion than on the position and decision of the council leader. It appears that only in cases of homicide is there anything like a regular procedure. The Kikuyu distinguish between intentional and accidental homicide, the difference being that for the latter there is an ideal fixed and the amount of compensation is smaller. The number of blood-cattle paid as compensation, [illegible] varies, but may be as high as ten or twelve hundred for a man; thirty were fixed for a boy, and thirteen (a head of cattle and 10 goats and sheep for a woman. Frederiksen gives the figures as 40 for a circumcised man, and 20 for a woman or uncircumcised man. The 5 clans are recognized as a group which pays and receives blood-cattle. The murder may be avenged by the dead person's brothers who may try to kill the murderer; and if compensation is not paid, the resulting feud may involve all agnatic kinsmen on both sides. It is not clear whether killing of the murderer makes the avengers also liable to compensation. If the victim belongs to the same sub-clan as the murderer, no compensation is paid either side. If they belong to different sub-clans of the same clan, or to different clans, all members of the murderer's sub-clan contribute, and the cattle are divided among the members of the victim's sub-clan after his senior brother has received half the stock. When a settlement has been made, peace is made between the families concerned by an exchange of garments. Maguire gives details of three methods of dealing with cases of murder. (1) The relatives of the victim take all the murderer's cattle; they hold a council and, after giving a few cattle to certain elders and old women, the brothers, brothers-in-law, and sons may retain one apiece as the price of the murdered man; a child to the relatives of the victim, the acceptance of which implies an agreement to meet and settle the matter, and compensation is arranged, the figure named being 40 head of cattle, with five more added to symbolize the human body (reckoned by the number of its orifices). (4) Sometimes the relatives of the victim do not take action for two years or more; they then visit the murderer's kraal by night and demand the number they want. For killing a smith, *ol-kaeni*, no compensation was payable, nor was there a blood feud. If a smith killed a Masai, several warriors set out and killed several smiths. Theft (except of cattle) is apparently considered of little account: "If a Kikuyu steals milk or meat or other small things, he is not fined. Grown-up people rarely steal," says Hollis. For cattle thefts, the thieves when caught were fined, while feud then each was concerned.

The general principle that a man is entitled to compensation for a wrong suffered is recognized by all Kikuyu, and this recognition is extended to "foreigners" like Dundas, provided the people concerned are well known to each other. On being accused, a man may submit to an oath, *ol-maeni*. In some cases a diviner of the type called *ol-gumbi* by Barbur is employed to find a guilty person. The whole subject of Kikuyu legal institutions needs detailed investigation.

Native Administration

The Kikuyu political structure has proved even more difficult of adaptation than that of the North, since it lacked the clear-cut pyramid division of the latter. Up to 1918 the chief taken in Kenya was accepted by the Administration as a permanent

[first case.]

A person who wrongs outside must, in some districts, pay a head of cattle to the one who prevented him from carrying out his intention.

Kidnapping and sale do not occur. Theft of cattle often leads to a fight if the thief and the person robbed belong to different levels lying far apart and so the same rise to different tribes. Among fellow tribal and local members the theft of a head of cattle is atoned for with a fine of up to ten head of cattle, that of a sheep or a goat with the payment of a head of cattle. Anyone who has eaten meat of a stolen head of livestock, even if he did not know that it was stolen, must contribute to the payment of the fine. If the stolen head of cattle is found still alive and is returned to the owner, this acts in such a mitigating way that in most cases no punishment at all takes place (3).

3. Sot Idaan /Exodus/ 22, 1 and 4: If anyone steals an ox or a sheep and slaughters it or sells it, he shall restore five head of cattle for an ox and four head of small livestock for a sheep. If the ox stolen is actually found alive in his hands /the Ger. Hand, "skin," here evidently should be Hand, "hand"/, from ox to donkey to sheep, he shall restore double.

One who acts as accomplice in a theft pays half the fine, while the thief has to raise the other half. One who steals a spear must return it and is given a beating as punishment. If the spear had already been sold before the one robbed discovered the theft, the latter must pay the former a cow, while the spear remains with the present owner. Theft of a shield is punished with the payment of a female goat. One who kills a stranger's livestock without stealing it must provide a replacement.

The death penalty is given for treason in war and for deliberate manslaughter. Negligent manslaughter is not punished.

/Sex crime./

There is no special punishment for cowardice in war. The warriors, however, smear the coward in front of the girls and make him ridiculous in their eyes. One who raises anyone ill through sorcery pays a head of cattle to the one bewitched. If he loses then, the sorcerer must pay the fine levied for murder and is himself driven away.

The death penalty is carried out in that a band of armed men attack the delinquent (slayer and kill him with spears. For a war /hero/ rather the execution is carried out by warriors, for an assembly by those injured by him. Fines are usually paid to bewitchment. In general their amount is not fixed for the individual offenses. On the one case this, in the other that is regarded as the norm. Diminished ability to pay because of previous (broken) sickness or unsuccessful wars naturally lowers the fine. However, if in the district the fellow members of the lineage or tribe of the perpetrator have a preponderance to sustain or power over those of the injured one, the fines are considerably smaller than in the opposite case: then murder is often punished as negligent homicide, or even a (live) even left entirely unpunished, just like other crimes or misdemeanors. irresponsibility is regarded as mitigating in some districts, in others not. An attempt is not punished. Self-defense is not mitigating. A degrading punishment exists only for the warriors and consists of cutting off the guilty man's braid-tradition, as is well known, one of the insignia of his standing. This punishment is said to be inflicted most frequently for rape committed on a married woman, less often also as additional punishment for theft. Innocent accused persons are remunerated with a goat or a sheep. The mentally ill occupy an exceptional position in the legal world only insofar as they are unable to pay fines. In such cases their people are then liable. The latter therefore keep in terrem the sick person who is inclined toward misdemeanors or crimes. Frequently, too, if an ol gnierldi does not succeed in curing him through magic remedies, he is tied to a tree at some distance from the kraal, to be devoured by predatory animals.

[illegible]

[illegible] only in putting forward property claims, and there only in the rare cases to which self-help is not preferred to legal procedure. The prosecution of a punishable deed does not take place by official action, but only on the basis of a complaint raised by the injured party. Judicial proceedings are generally unnecessary.

The procedure in the usual case of a (modern) theft, which occurs frequently, is to be shown. It is to be assumed that an ox has been stolen to the person. If the boy tending the (modern) observed the theft, he notifies the owner of the herd (below an headman of the herdsmen) upon coming home in the evening. Otherwise the owner of the ox, in looking over the livestock, immediately notices the loss, since they know every head precisely. All the conversation in the local area revolves around the theft, and through that it becomes known on that same evening, not only to the home local, but also in the neighboring area. The friends of the one robbed declare themselves ready to pursue the thief and track down the stolen head of cattle. If their investigation leads to there discovering the ox or parts of it, so that the thief can be convicted, there are as a rule no judicial proceedings, since the perpetrator and his accomplices usually immediately declare themselves ready to pay the customary fine. If, however, the investigation is without success, the person robbed runs to a seeress (or prophet), who, on the basis of an oracle (or ghost), gives him a description of the appearance of the thief, whereupon the one robbed will accuse of the theft a man who fits this description. The one so accused appears in the following proceedings as defendant, in the same way as, say, one who is charged on circumstantial evidence. The one robbed selects as leader of the proceedings a respected old man who must have formerly once been speaker of the warriors. This man determines /fix/ the day and place of the proceedings and has this announced by a crier, who goes to the neighboring locals, draws attention to himself by blowing a bull or oryx horn, and informs the approaching people about the matter. Further, the judge summons plaintiff, defendant, and possibly witnesses by messengers. If the defendant refuses to appear, he is forcefully led up by friends of the plaintiff. Anyone may appear as a witness. Relatives of the defendant may refuse both to give

[illegible]

ceremony and to appear. Other witnesses who do not appear are punished with a beating by the party of the plaintiff. The proceedings, to which only male individuals may participate, take place at a rule under a shade tree close to the kraal to which the judge lives. Each one arrived, after he has greeted the judge, squats down on the ground in front of him. After these who were invited and a large number of onlookers have appeared, the proceedings begin. The judge then says the following prayer: *Ng ni ikelane isiko, ze isiti e mangile, ze isiti e gwelile* = may God protect us, may he give us strength and freedom, to which those assembled reply *ehe* or *weka* (may he give). Then they proceed with the cases. Plaintiff, defendant, and witnesses are heard, one after the other. They swear the oath either by the word *ntwa* = to oath, saying *Ng ni i gwelile* = so certain that God may give me freedom, or by certain names saying *Ng ni mwane* may God kill me if I speak an untruth; *mwane* as above = may a spear kill me if I lie. With the last formula, one picks up a little sand with the spear point and brings this to the tip of the tongue. Another form consists of chewing a few blades of grass and with that saying the words *nsabatwenyi* mwane I gwelile ngo silelige ami *Ng ni*, i.e., may this grass be poison to me if I have told before God.

For swearing oath, verbs in combination, *ngwa ni ekile*, i.e., on the entry! The entry of a law is tied so tightly around the upper arm of the defendant that it cuts into the flesh. If the testimony has not succeeded in convicting the defendant and if he cannot prove his innocence by an alibi, an ordeal is used. The most common is the *ni mwenyi* / *ni ngo*, i.e., the ordeal of the blood. The defendant is given a bowl with a mixture of blood and milk. Before he drinks, he says the words *Ng ni o-nb ele ngo, ngwa sam ajawa ene pwal, ngo ele ngo*, i.e., God, I drink the blood. If I have taken the bowl of cattle the blood will kill me. If the defendant does not die after eight to fourteen days, proof of his innocence is provided by that. Another ordeal is the *ni mwenyi* / *ni yawa matale*, i.e., the ordeal of the dry wood. By accepting them, he invites God's punishment upon himself if he is guilty. He will then have [illegible] he dies like the dry branch, whereas otherwise he will remain vigorous and healthy, as the green one will do. Less common is the

[illegible]

[illegible] ol mensel | ol gisn, the ordeal of the bow. A bow is placed on the ground and a magic horn is set at either end of it. This is a goat horn that is filled with a medicine made by a sorcerer. As soon as the defendant has stepped over the bow, his lot will be, if he is guilty, the punishment of God, that is, in this case death. The effect of the ordeal rests on the firm belief in them. The guilty one is convinced that the punishment of God will have to strike him. He imagines that he is ill and sees his salvation only in an open confession. He goes to the one ordeal, confesses his deed, pays the customary fine, and begs for forgiveness. Only by quitting the latter can he escape the consequences of the false oath. The one ordeal must in this case -- if he himself does not wish to invite the punishment of God on himself -- grant the pardon and does so through words and spittings, whereby at the same time a friendship is fostered between the two. Besides the aforementioned ordeals there are two others which are not accompanied by curses. The ol mensel | ol ensge | ce galagek or ol mensel | ol ensge | ol gab = the ordeal of the dead snake of earth. The defendant must sit down on a specially prepared loop of earth. If his crumbles under him, he is regarded as guilty. The other one, the ol mensel | ol gisn (of the goat), is used only if the defendant is a new-comer. The defendant, standing, takes a goat between his legs and cuts an ear off it. If the blood issuing from the ear spatters him, he is guilty.

The majority of the assembly decides whether and which ol mensel is to be used. The accused must submit to the ordeal, and, to be sure, only he alone. He may not substitute a proxy. It is never used against witnesses and plaintiff. The ordeal always constitutes the conclusion of the session, which the leader then terminates with the same prayer with which he began it.

If the ordeal has done no harm to the defendant within ten to fourteen days, he is completely cleared of suspicion. The one robbed turns to a sorcerer (if he had already turned to such a one for the first proceedings, he now goes to another one), who again, through the ol gidek, gives a description of the guilty one. As soon as the one described is found, there are proceedings against him.